



breakout ABSTRACT

Abstract No. 44

TITLE

USING CRITERIA POLLUTANTS TO ASSESS AND MONITOR HEALTH IMPACT IN TRACKING

TRACK

Network Content

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this presentation the audience will

- understand the variety of expectations for how air quality and associated health effects data would be used within the Tracking Program.
- be able to articulate how air quality and related health data can realistically be used in Tracking to develop scientifically defensible information for informing public health practice/actions with current resource levels and technological capabilities.
- be able to articulate solutions and recommendations to meet challenges associated with health and environmental data assessment; methods evaluation and adaptation; and management of internal and external expectations of EPHT.

SUMMARY

Among the emerging findings of EPHT participants is that progress toward the development of EPHT tools, applications and networks is only made in the context of effective and sustained collaborations among partners.

The chief objectives of the Public Health Air Surveillance Evaluation (PHASE) project was to conduct a multi-state evaluation of the utility of various air quality characterization approaches; identify appropriate health data and analytical methods; and develop software and a guidance document for use in EPHT activities. However, the ability to build, nurture and sustain an effective collaborative environment has been among the primary challenges in staging and implementing this project.

Because many of the discrete steps required to achieve PHASE objectives are fundamental to a variety of tasks to be encountered in constructing a national EPHT network, lessons learned from PHASE can be beneficial to other EPHT initiatives. Presenters will describe benchmarks, dynamics and paths to success for several processes undertaken as part of the PHASE project. These processes include: (1) staging the project and developing appropriate partnerships; (2) identifying and preparing relevant health outcome and environmental data; (3) sharing data with project partners; (4) developing and implementing data linkage and analysis protocols; (5) assembling, interpreting, presenting and publishing results; and (6) managing expectations from internal and external partners and stakeholders.



Implementing The Tracking Network

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